History of International Relations at a Glance
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1 — Westphalian Sovereignty

Result of: **Thirty Year's War (1618-1648) Catholic states v. Protestant states in Western and Central Europe**
Based on: **Peace of Westphalia (Treaties of Osnabruck and Munster)**

Features:
- the parties refused to assert their rightness in the past as irrefutable evidence of their rightness in the present; the parties renounced their exclusive right to know the right part to the future;
- the principle of pluralism of proofs;
- **the idea of balance of power;**
- recognition as one of the key principles – "principle of national and stare sovereignty";
- the equality of rights among states;
- the obligation to fulfill the signed agreements;
- the principle of international law and the application of diplomacy in international relations;
- the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries;
- Eurocentrism.

2 — Concert of Europe (Vienna System)

Result of: **Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815)**
Based on: **Congress of Vienna (1815)**

Features:
- the first prototype of the collective security system;
- holding international conferences to resolve acute international problems;
- **the system of balance of power between European states;**
- the final formation of great empires and the colonial world (but without formal consolidation of the colonial possessions);
- Eurocentrism;
- an important element of the system – coalition of states;
- time of classical diplomacy (development of multilateral diplomacy, systematization of diplomatic ranks).

3 — Versailles-Washington System

Result of: **World War I (1914-1918)**
Based on: **Peace Treaty of Versailles (1919) and Washington Naval Conference (1921-1922)**

Features:
- created under the influence of the political and military-strategic goals of the winning countries in the World War I;
- ignoring the interests of the defeated countries and states that appeared after the First World War;
- the creation of the League of Nations (LN) in 1920 as an institution of collective security (but without mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of its decisions);
- transition to a global nature (Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific region);
- political isolation of the United States from European affairs, transition to economic impact as a means of foreign policy in Europe.

4 — Yalta-Potsdam World Order

Result of: **World War II (1939-1945)**
Based on: **Yalta Conference (February 1945) and Potsdam Conference (July-August 1945)**

Features:
- confrontational character;
- **bipolar system of international relations;**
- systemic opposition in the economic, political, military, cultural, ideological and other spheres;
- division into two parts of the world and separation inside some countries (Germany, Korea, Vietnam, China);
- complete withdrawal from Eurocentrism – the system of international relations has become global, worldwide;
- maintaining stability of Soviet-American relations as the main prerequisite for international security and peace through the UN instruments;
- Cold War; the nuclear arms race; persistent tension;
- A need to conclude additional agreements (Helsinki Final Act of 1975) to stabilize the system.

5 — Modern System of International Relations

Result of: **Cold War's end, dissolution of USSR and Warsaw Pact (1991)**

Features:
- attempt of one superpower (the U.S.) to establish global hegemony;
- the emergence of new centers of power on the world map (e.g. China, Russia, India);
- huge role of multinational corporations in international politics;
- joint solutions of new types of global threats (e.g. terrorism, violent extremism, drug trafficking, epidemics, cybercrime, etc.);
- the widespread use of the concepts of "smart power" (combination of hard and soft power strategies) in international relations.

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PORTUGAL 2020

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